

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Working Holy Days: 10 am & 7.30 pm
Monday to Friday: 10 am
Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm
Fr Colin Doocey Adm. Pro Tem



Recently Deceased

Bridie Flynn, Upper Convent Road
May the light of heaven surround her always.



Wreaths that wither

At the Olympic Games in ancient Greece there were no medals, gold or silver or bronze. Each of the winners was given a wreath. St. Paul commented on this at the time, in a letter to the Christian community in Corinth. He said that the runners were self-disciplined in all aspects of their way of living in order to win a wreath that withered away. He told the Christians that they could learn from the athletes, since they too were competing to win a wreath, one that would never wither.



I suspect that most of us would be embarrassed if we were reminded of the wreaths we have worked for that have withered. Among these may be our efforts to make a good impression and to be seen in a favourable light, our pride in the modest talents we have been given, the good deeds for which we take credit. Our pile of withered wreaths may remind us of the words of Jesus: "Without me you can do nothing." At the same time we trust that our feeble efforts, by the grace and mercy of God, may win us the wreath that never fades.

We are taught to compete only for the wreath that does not fade.

Fr. Colin



Tabgha: Byzantine Mosaic

Welcome to the celebration of Mass

We have placed **yellow spots** to highlight where people should sit.

FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN IN THE CHURCH.

We will continue to stand for the "Gospel" and "Our Father". We ask that you **do not kneel-down** at anytime. Ministers of the Eucharist will be positioned at the top and centre of the church. The Ministers will wear face masks and we ask that you maintain 2 metres distance in the line. Follow the Stewards guidance during Communion.
Many thanks for your help and we hope you all keep well.



Baptisms

Following the recent government announcement all baptisms deferred. Families have really looked forward to these special moments in their lives so it is disappointing but we hope that these can be celebrated soon when it will be safe to do so.

Parish Finance – Thank You

Many people now use the Donate Button on the Parish website to support the parish and priests. This is really appreciated in these challenging times for everyone.

First Holy Communions and Confirmations

Again, following the government announcement during the week arrangements for the celebration of the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation are on hold.

Welcome and Thank You

We are so grateful to our volunteer stewards, church collectors, parish ministries and parish volunteers who continue to make sure that we can gather confidently and safely for Mass.

Go raibh maith agat.

A Thought

On this Sunday, we begin reading from John 6. It is especially suitable this year, as we pick up again our regular attendance at the Eucharist. The forced abstinence will certainly have left its mark. We may wonder what we missed, why we missed it and what sense does it now make to return to the worshipping community and the Lord's Supper.

You may be using your mobile phone for Mass, if so, please ensure it is on silent. If not, please switch it off. Thank you



When you use the newsletter, please take it home with you.

DO NOT RETURN IT TO THE TABLE

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
Under the current Covid circumstances, Fr. Colin has generously offered the poor box near the exit as a collection point for SVP. If you wish to contribute any time, it would be appreciated. Thank you.



PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

There are now 2 Defibrillators located in the Parish, one in the village & one outside Murphy's Circle K Petrol Station. The code to operate both is **2017**

If you would like to receive a weekly commentary on the Weekly Scripture Readings, both in AUDIO and in PDF, please log on to www.tarsus.ie and register to receive the emails.

Thought for the day

The multiplication of the loaves generates many levels of meaning, often deeply spiritual. At a more ordinary level, we see an anonymous boy with the bread and fish making available what little he had for the Lord to make use of them. Placing ourselves at his disposal, offering whatever gifts we have is all that is asked of each of us.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, we know that you see potential where we see limits. All we have and are is your gift in the first place. Help us to place ourselves and your gifts at your disposal for the service of the Kingdom.

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

1. At the heart of this story we are told that Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and distributed them. In our day this reminds us of the Eucharist, the bread of life with which Jesus feeds us. By sharing the bread and wine in the Eucharist we symbolise our unity with one another and with God. Can you recall a particular Eucharist that was especially nourishing for you. What was it that made it different?
2. Take, give thanks, distribute. The actions of Jesus also suggest an attitude to time, gifts and living. We take what we are given, give thanks, and use what we have. Have you found that having a grateful heart for what you have been given has made it easier for you to share with others?
3. From what seemed meagre and inadequate resources many were fed. When have you found that when you gratefully use what little resources you have the results are beyond your expectations?
4. Jesus chose to involve those around him in feeding the people. Have there been times when you have experienced benefits from calling on those around you to use their gifts to help with a task?

PRAYER

O God, you open wide your hand, giving us food in due season. Out of your never-failing abundance, satisfy the hungers of body and soul and lead all peoples of the earth to the feast of the world to come. We make our prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

MASS CARDS

We have received a supply of the Packet of 12 Mass Cards. Like everything else during Lockdown they have doubled in price. We will sell any parishioner a single Mass Card signed by the priests of the parish – the cost €1.00 per card plus the Stipend for the Mass.